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SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE PRINCIPLE OF NON-USE OF FORCE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2nd MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Tuesday, 22 August, at 10.30 a.m.

Chairman: Mr. Cuevas CANCINO (Mexico)

later: Mr. JACOVIDES (Cyprus)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.55 a.m.

TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF PRESIDENT MZEE JOMO KENYATTA

1. On the proposal of the Chairman, the members of the Committee observed a minute of silence in memory of President Mzee Jomo Kenyatta.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

2. Mr. Jacovides (Cyprus) took the Chair.

3. Mr. KOLESNIK (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said he did not think that the question of the organization of work presented any particular difficulties. The Committee should adhere to United Nations practice and bear in mind its lofty goals and the responsibilities of each member. In accordance with the method followed by previous special committees of the General Assembly, the Committee should begin with a general debate. The question of the non-use of force in international relations lay at the very basis of the Charter, and it was essential that delegations should be given the opportunity to supplement or modify the views they had expressed during previous discussions of the subject. The Committee could decide on the question of the length of the general debate at a later stage, depending on the outcome of discussions.

4. Mr. SOKALSKI (Poland) said that the Committee was faced with the unique task of discussing the question of enhancing the effectiveness of a principle which was the corner-stone of the Charter. The Committee should use its time to the fullest possible extent, bearing in mind budgetary and administrative considerations. His delegation felt that the suggestions made by the representative of the Soviet Union constituted a very sound basis for the organization of work. The Committee should initiate a general debate immediately and try to finish it as quickly as possible; in the meantime informal consultations could take place on how to organize the Committee's work so as to make the best possible use of the time available.

5. The CHAIRMAN said he took it that the Committee agreed that it should start with a general debate, after which, in the light of informal consultations, it would discuss the next stage of the organization of work.

6. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 11.15 a.m.